

## Bomb scare puts off Italian vote

ROME, Aug. 6, (R). — The crucial confidence debate on Italy's new government was suspended in the Senate (upper house) tonight, apparently because of a telephoned bomb threat.

The Senate President, Signor Amintore Fanfani, gave no precise reason for suspending the sitting shortly before the vote was due to take place. He said only that "certain checks are being made."

# JORDAN TIMES

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## Viking 1 mechanical fault looks permanent

PASADENA, Aug. 6, (R). — The Viking 1 Mars probe, running short of time to complete its search for life on the red planet, continued to perplex scientists here today.

A picture beamed back from the Viking 1 robot lander today showed that the arm of its soil scoop was stuck in a fully extended position, not partly retracted as first believed.

The first picture of the 10-foot (3.3 metre) telescopic arm was expected to show its jaw-like scoop, which was carrying a load of the planet's soil back to the lander when it stuck on Tuesday.

But as the photograph, transmitted across 215 million miles (346 million kilometres) of space, built up line by line on television screens at Jet Propulsion Laboratory (JPL) here, the scoop was not in the picture.

"The boom has been extended further than anticipated," said Alan Binder, a member of the mission's photographic team.

Mission director Tom Young told reporters that if the breakdown is in the arm's motor or wiring, it may be impossible to put it back in operation.

The time available to repair the soil arm is severely limited by the fact that a second, identical Viking spacecraft is now almost at the planet and will go into orbit around it tomorrow.

Viking II is to be landed in a very different area of the planet, near the north polar ice cap. But because the land there is wrinkled like an elephant's hide, a safe spot for the landing, set for September 4, has not been found.

When Viking II lands, Viking I will have to be temporarily ignored because radio links cannot operate both spacecraft fully at the same time.

Mr. Young said on Wednesday he believed the faulty arm, which stuck earlier in the mission also, had retracted about one third or one half a yard (metre) before becoming stuck. But the pho-

## OPEC ready to go it alone on aid fund

VIENNA, Aug. 6, (R). — Oil-exporting countries charged tonight that some industrialised nations were failing to negotiate seriously at an international conference on economic cooperation in Paris.

Finance ministers from the 13-nation Organisation of Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC) called on the West to show a more positive response at the "north-south dialogue" in the French capital.

After two days of talks behind tight security, the ministers said they were standing firm on their refusal to give more than 400 million dollars — half their aid budget for this year — to a 1,000 million dollar United Nations agricultural development fund.

An OPEC press statement said the western nations, which have so far pledged \$ million to the fund, should make up the 70 million dollar gap as soon as possible.

The director general of the special fund, Mr. Ibrahim Shihata of Kuwait, told journalists: "It is a matter of principle that the gap should be filled by developed countries because although it is not big, the principle is."

He said that if the difference was not made up within a certain time then OPEC may decide to allocate the 400 million dollars directly.

"We should be able to know whether the difference will be made up by the new financial year of 1977."

The ministers also "exchanged views on international monetary and financial issues, particularly those related to the International Monetary Fund and the IBRD (World Bank) with a view to co-ordinating their policies in these fields," the statement said.

Observers said the pledge to start cooperating on the international financial and monetary arena marked a new and potentially significant expansion of OPEC's activities.



MARCHING ON — Black power salutes at Katlehong township, near Johannesburg as a truck blazes after being stopped and set on fire by angry demonstrators. (A.P. wirephoto).

## South African police put on alert as Soweto seethes

JOHANNESBURG, Aug. 6, (R). — Black rioting worsened in Soweto township today and police throughout South Africa were reported to have been put on the alert.

Black youths, often joined by adults, rampaged through the dirt streets of Johannesburg's "shadow city" stoning and burning buses, cars and trains.

Police in "hippo" armoured trucks used teargas to break up marauding gangs and the sound of automatic gunfire was heard from several areas.

Police said they were firing over the heads of the rioters they stuck to their earlier statement that the only people killed by po-

lice bullets were two blacks shot when the demonstrations began on Wednesday.

Unofficial estimates put the death toll at seven. But these included two people who fell or were pushed under trains, a girl who was trampled to death, and a black man who broke his neck when he dived from a Soweto bus that was being stoned.

Transport was the main target as demonstrators sought to enforce a "stay-at-home" by black workers. But despite harassment, many blacks managed to get to work in Johannesburg factories and offices.

Companies which reported massive absenteeism on Wednesday and Thursday said four out of five black workers had reached their jobs today.

By mid-afternoon there were no reports of further attempts to stage a mass march on Johannesburg. About 500 students gathered in the Orlando district and [Continued on page 6]

## Red Cross abandons Tal Al-Zaatar evacuation

BEIRUT, Aug. 6, (R). — The International Red Cross tonight abandoned its evacuation of about 1,000 wounded from Beirut's besieged Tal Al-Zaatar refugee camp after a convoy sent into the embattled area came under sniper fire.

A Red Cross communique said: "The only truly humanitarian solution to the problem of a besieged people of Tal Al-Zaatar is a total evacuation, not only of the wounded people but of the whole civilian population living in the camp."

Questioned on this point, a Red Cross official said such an operation would be too big for the Red Cross to handle alone. "It's up to the parties concerned to organise it. We are always ready to help if asked."

Tal Al-Zaatar has been under a rightwing siege for six weeks and the Red Cross evacuated 408 people from the camp over the last three days.

The third day of the operation ended in chaos today when Red Cross workers came under sniper fire which injured a Swiss lorry driver and four of the evacuees. Officials said their condition was not grave.

Some 200 inhabitants of the camp, which has been under heavy bombardment from rightist forces, rushed to the nearby foothill ground collecting point and pleaded to leave under Red Cross protection.

The suspension of the evacuation came as a bitter blow to Red Cross officials here who started the operation on Tuesday after a month's delay.

The communique said a total of 74 people were brought out of Tal Al-Zaatar to leftist held west Beirut today.

Major Fouad Malek, a commander of rightwing forces besieging the camp, said that from tomorrow the Red Cross should evacuate all those who wanted to leave — or none at all.

## Sismik 1 resumes soundings in Aegean, Greece intensifies patrols

ANKARA, Aug. 6, (R). — A extra military measures other than to intensify naval patrols to ensure that the Turkish vessel, Sismik 1, did not violate Greece's continental shelf.

A Greek oceanographic vessel, the Nautilus, is also in the Aegean to carry out research work.

Sismik last week conducted tests in an area of the north Aegean that is undisputed but lies close to where Greece has discovered commercially exploitable oil.

In its present explorations, Sismik is expected to conduct soundings in areas claimed by both countries, diplomatic sources said in Athens.

Diplomatic sources here said the situation was uncertain but the two governments appeared anxious to avoid a confrontation.

Greece apparently fears Turkey may try to establish mineral rights by virtue of the voyage. Ankara says it has no such intention, maintaining that the seabed issue must be settled by negotiation and that scientific research has no bearing on the matter.

But government sources here said no Greek warships had been reported shadowing the vessel, which will be mapping the seabed between the Turkish mainland and the Greek island of Limnos for an estimated 10 days.

Ankara and Athens have issued rival petroleum prospecting licenses covering a wide area to the east and south of Limnos but it was not clear whether the survey ship would try working in this particularly sensitive zone.

An authoritative source said in Athens that Greece had not taken today's peace based on nuclear weapons could not be called true world peace.

"I believe the only way to attain real world peace is to abolish nuclear war totally and liberate mankind from the nuclear threat," Mr. Miki said. "Although it is a long and difficult road, we must continue to appeal to the whole world and mankind in the quest for real peace."

The prime minister, whose government finally succeeded this year in gaining parliamentary ratification for the nuclear non-proliferation treaty six years after Japan signed it, said the people of the only atom-bombed nation had a moral responsibility to seek real peace.

This, he said, was the right way to comfort the spirits of the country's atom-bombed dead. The thousands in the memorial park rose and bowed their heads in prayer as the peace bell tolled out at 8.15 a.m., the time the bomb was dropped from the American B-29 bomber Enola Gay.

Down a grassy tree-lined avenue stood the bomb-shattered walls and skeleton roof of the former Hiroshima industrial production hall which has been preserved in this form as a peace symbol.

Mayor Takeshi Araki told the crowd that the people of Hiroshima had vowed to set aside grief and grudges in the search for disarmament and peace "so ours."

Hiroshima, a city of some 250,000 in August 1945, has risen from the ashes and now has a population of 850,000. But amid the modern buildings and the greenery of the parks, people retain a vivid memory of atomic devastation.

## Khleifawi submits cabinet list

DAMASCUS, Aug. 6, (R). — Syria's premier designate, Major-General Abdel-Rahman Khleifawi, today submitted his list of cabinet ministers for the approval of President Hafez Al-Assad and the ruling Arab Baath Socialist Party leadership, official sources said.

The general took six days of extensive consultations to make his cabinet selection — an unusually long time for the formation of a Syrian government, observers said.

## Shah firm on U.S. arms deals

NOWSHAHR, Iran, Aug. 6, (R). — The Shah of Iran said today he was firm on his oil supplies for American weapons, arguing the only alternative to his massive U.S. arms purchases would be total nuclear holocaust of more Vietnamese.

Following talks at this Caspian Sea town with U.S. Secretary of State Henry Kissinger this afternoon, the Shah told reporters his country had a sovereign right of self-defence which could not be challenged.

The Shah's purchases of 10,000 million dollars worth of the most sophisticated U.S. jet fighters and warships over the past four years have come under sharp criticism in Congress, where there are fears that his arsenal was growing quite formidable.

But in his interview with American reporters today, the Shah in effect told the United States it had no choice but to continue arming his country, despite Iran's diminishing oil supplies.

"Can the U.S. or the non-communist world afford to lose Iran?" he asked them. "What other alternative do you have? Either all-out nuclear holocaust or other Vietnamese now and then."

With Dr. Kissinger sitting by his side, the Shah challenged the American government to try and stop his attempt to enter direct barter deals with U.S. arms manufacturers such as General Dynamics and Litton Industries.

"This is a private deal," he said. "I don't see that this is within your jurisdiction, in a so-called free economy, to interfere."

In fact, none of the proposed barter deals is near completion, and the U.S. government would retain a veto power over any arms delivery to Iran.

Warning against any attempts to block arms sales, the Shah said: "If your sources are not available to us, there are many other sources waiting for us to shop in their shops."

The Shah sought to squelch official U.S. speculation that he might offer his bartered oil for the equivalent of something less than the minimum price, now about 12 dollars a barrel, set by the Organisation of Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC).

"We are not that broke," he said, indirectly acknowledging a budget deficit that is believed to have prompted him to consider barter deals.

He said Iran would have to borrow foreign currency to help it meet part of its 7,000 million dollar aid commitments to India,

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## The testimony of Hiroshima

The peace bell tolled for one minute in Hiroshima Friday as the assembled thousands rose and bowed their heads. Japan's Prime Minister Takeo Miki told an entranced audience "I believe it is the moral responsibility to mankind of the Japanese people—as the only atom bombed nation—to live home the message that 'today's peace based on the threat of nuclear weapons cannot be said to be true world peace.'"

Whichever mischievous recording angel keeps tabs on the ironies of human destiny must have grinned impishly at his added proof that it is the impotent victims, not the victors who are the first to absorb the message of tragedy.

Of course Mr. Miki's argument derived its strength not from the cold logic of superpower competition but from the awesome testimony of gutted concrete, scorched earth and human suffering; as eloquent an argument as any man can muster.

Yet the dramatic setting does not rob his words of any of their truth. Reliance on nuclear arms as a deterrent against total war, whose possibility is created by those very arms, no substitute for a network of relations that are conducive to peace, not war.

Sad to say, it would be idealistic if not utopian, to expect the superpowers to suddenly shift their positions, so that they are no longer competitors but allies. The reliance on deterrents arises in a situation where the two sides recognise the existence of a conflict of interests from which the threat of war could arise. Once nuclear weapons had been developed, was too late to go back on the discovery. Neither side would allow the other to gain unchallenged supremacy in the field of nuclear armament. The logic for compiling ever more sophisticated nuclear arsenals seems to be faultless.

Cracks begin to appear in this logical edifice, however, as the level of sophistication acquired in the technology of nuclear armament increases. Now there are strategic and tactical nuclear weapons, there are weapons of total and restricted destruction, there are "clean" bombs and "dirty" bombs. Arguments are being put forward today as to how tactical nuclear weapons could be used by NATO to offset Warsaw Pact superiority in conventional armament. The words of Barry Goldwater, one-time contender for the American presidency, also come back to haunt his audience years ago. The undaunted Mr. Goldwater suggested the use of tactical nuclear arms as "defoliants" in Vietnam to deprive the Viet Cong of their natural cover. It could have been only a very short step from there to total nuclear war. Who is to say?

Nuclear technology has also advanced to the point where small atomic bombs are within the reach of governments with very small budgets and very little scientific know-how of their own. Various research reports have shown that the probability of a nuclear war breaking out as a result of a confrontation between small nations is steadily increasing. The unfortunate thing about so-called restricted atomic or nuclear war is that it could lead to a chain reaction and global "critical mass" could be achieved before anyone could dampen the core.

The superpowers have therefore recently showed revived interest in nuclear non-proliferation treaties.

Yet there are fears now that nuclear disarmament at this point might prove as difficult a task as curing the cancer victims of Hiroshima.

## Will propose global payments union Egypt warns of unwieldy debt problem for developing countries

CAIRO, Aug. 6, (R) — Development of regularly seeking more help from rich states. He had prepared a proposal for the non-aligned states secretariat, based in Georgetown, Guyana, to be tabled at the Colombo summit, calling for the creation of a global payments union for developing countries, Mr. Abdel-Maguid said.

The tasks of the union would be to promote trade among developing nations, act as a bank clearing house for payments, cut out private intermediaries such as commodity brokers who were generally based in rich countries, and provide loans to buy goods and to meet balance of payments deficits.

Based on past trends, developing countries could expect trade amongst themselves to rise to \$40,000 million in 1980 from 22,000 million in 1975 and 100,000 million in 1969, he said.

The proposed union would need a reserve fund of about 2,000 million dollars for its financing activities, he estimated.

Because of a clearing house system, in which debts are settled by book transactions, developing countries would also have more foreign currency available to buy expensive goods from industrialised states, Mr. Abdel-Maguid added.



## Rabin predicts lengthy struggle in Lebanon

TEL AVIV, Aug. 6, (R) — Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin said today he foresaw a lengthy struggle in the Lebanon which would set back chances of any renewed negotiations between Israel and the Arab states.

In an interview with the trade union newspaper Davar, Mr. Rabin said the Syrians appeared intent on keeping away from the Lebanese-Israeli border area to avoid a clash with Israel.

The fighting in the Lebanon, he claimed, was caused by the activities of the Palestinians, who had tried to establish themselves as the dominant factor within the country.

I think the Lebanese conflict will be protracted and I foresee no speedy military solution."

The prime minister said the deep splits in the Arab world were to the advantage of Israel but he added: "This can change of course. We live in the Middle East, where all is change."

Mr. Rabin said he saw no short-term danger to Israel from the fighting in Lebanon. "The central military factor there is the

Syrian army," he alleged and the Syrians are not out to provoke a confrontation with Israel. "But we have to remain on our guard," he said.

He added: "The Arab world is not capable at the moment, when its main political and military efforts are concentrated in the Lebanon, of freeing itself for preoccupation with any form of talks with Israel, either for a general agreement or for cancellation of the state of war."

"And hand in hand with this reduction of any chances of negotiations there is also a reduction in the dangers of pan-Arab military cooperation for a confrontation with Israel."

Mr. Rabin said he thought the time was ripe for a widespread public relations campaign against the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO).

## Saudi, Malaysian economic projects to be discussed

KUALA LUMPUR, Aug. 6, (R) — The Malaysia-Saudi Arabia joint commission will meet here for the first time next Monday to discuss projects for economic cooperation between the two countries.

A Malaysian foreign ministry statement said the three-day meeting would consider Malaysia's development projects to be implemented with Saudi loan or equity participation by Saudi authorities.

The meeting would also discuss assistance which Malaysia could in return offer to Saudi Arabia, such as in agriculture, health, public administration, and education, the statement added.

The joint commission was formed under an economic and technical cooperation agreement

## Exchange Rates

Following are the official exchange rates at the close of the business day yesterday. The two figures denote buying and selling prices in Jordanian fils:

U.S. dollar	331.0	333.0
U.K. sterling	594.0	600.0
French franc	67.4	67.7
Swiss franc	134.1	134.5
German mark	130.4	130.8
Iraqi dinar	937.0	942.0
Syrian pound	81.5	81.8
Egyptian pound	485.0	495.0
Lebanese pound	105.3	107.9
U.A.E. dirham	83.6	84.0

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## King presents condolences

AMMAN. — His Majesty King Hussein Friday delegated Sheriff Mohammad Hashem to represent him at the funeral of the late Mohammad Salem Abu Al Ghanam, a former member of parliament, and to present his condolences to the family of the deceased.

Prime Minister Mudar Badran delegated the Minister of the Interior Suleiman Arar to represent him at the funeral.

## HM Hobart leaves

AMMAN. — The Australian destroyer HM Hobart left Aqaba on Friday at the end of a three-day courtesy visit during which its crew visited archaeological and tourist sites.

## Amman, Aqaba linked by new tel. channels

AMMAN. — Telephone channels in operation between Amman and Aqaba have been increased to 40 channels as of Friday, August 6, the Director-General of the Telecommunications Corporation Mohammad Shahed Ismail said Friday.

Only 10 channels were available previously between the two cities he added.

## Kuwait delegation ends Indonesia tour

JAKARTA, Aug. 6, (R). — A Kuwaiti parliamentary mission, led by speaker Khaled Saleh Al Ghunaim, left here for home last night after a four-day familiarisation tour.

During their stay the mission had talks with President Suharto, Foreign Minister Adam Malik, and other government officials on various subjects aimed at strengthening relations between Kuwait and Indonesia.

The mission leader said he hoped Indonesian businessmen would visit Kuwait to explore the possibility of establishing direct contacts to boost their trade relations.

## Gulf ministers to meet in Oman

KUWAIT, Aug. 6, (R). — Oman has suggested August 21 as the date for the next conference of Gulf foreign ministers which is due to be held in Muscat, the Omani capital, Kuwait foreign minister Sheikh Sabah Al Ahmad said here last week.

The Kuwaiti minister, who is acting as co-ordinator for the Gulf ministers who have met three times since their first informal conference in July last year, said consultations were under way to fix a date for the meeting.

The conference, due to discuss security arrangements linking Iran and the seven Gulf Arab states, was originally expected to be held two months ago but could not be convened because of Arab preoccupation with the war in Lebanon.

## Television

Channel 3 & 6:  
6.00 Quran  
6.15 Cartoons  
6.30 Arabic series  
8.00 News in Arabic

Channel 3:  
7.30 Family programme  
8.30 Arabic series  
9.30 Reportage

Channel 6:

7.30 News in Hebrew  
7.45 Varieties  
8.30 Dad's army  
9.10 Variety show  
10.00 News in English  
10.15. Movie of the week  
(On both channels)

## Amman Airport

### Departures:

9.00	Aqaba
9.00	Tabouk, Jeddah (SAA)
10.30	Damascus, Aleppo
11.00	Cairo
11.15	Kuwait (KAC)
12.00	Geneva, Brussels, Amsterdam
12.30	Copenhagen, Frankfurt
13.00	London
13.30	Athens, Paris
14.30	Jeddah (S.A.A.)
19.00	Abu Dhabi, Dubai
20.00	Cairo
21.00	Cairo

### Arrivals:

8.10	Kuwait
9.20	Muscat, Doha
9.30	Bangkok, Abu Dhabi
9.45	Karachi, Dubai
9.50	Tehran
10.25	Dhahran, Baghdad
10.30	Kuwait (KAC)
10.40	Aqaba
12.35	Riyadh, Dhahran (SAA)
16.00	Aleppo, Damascus
17.30	Cairo
18.20	Frankfurt
20.50	London (BA)
01.45	Cairo
03.30	Cairo

## IMF delegation starts talks

AMMAN. — Economic talks between Jordan and a delegation from the International Monetary Fund (IMF) starts here Saturday at the Central Bank.

The talks will deal with Jordan's financial policy, its balance of payments, the system adopted in commercial exchange and trade in general, and the monetary developments and their effect on Jordan.

The IMF delegation, lead by Erich Ulmhoft will present to the Jordanian authorities after thorough discussions its recommendations and propositions on how to improve procedures in the above fields and help Jordan's policymakers to draw the country's economic and financial plan for the coming year.

It will also debate matters relevant to the Amman capital market which was recently set up here and discuss means to guarantee its future workability.

The Jordanian team to the talks includes representatives from the Ministries of Industry and Commerce, Agriculture, the Central Bank, the National Planning Council, the Royal Scientific Society, and the Department of Statistics.

The IMF delegation had arrived here early this week and had held preliminary talks with a number of officials to form an idea of Jordan's economic and financial position.

## Irbid, Damascus coach service opened

AMMAN. — A new regular overland route between Irbid and Damascus was opened Friday morning when two Pullman coaches started daily trips between the two cities.

A similar service has been in operation since early February between Amman and Damascus.

The Syrian undersecretary of tourism who was present at the bus terminal in Damascus to welcome the arrival of the Irbid-Damascus coach said that the new service will help to encourage and develop tourism in the north of Jordan, in particular to the Himmeh region.

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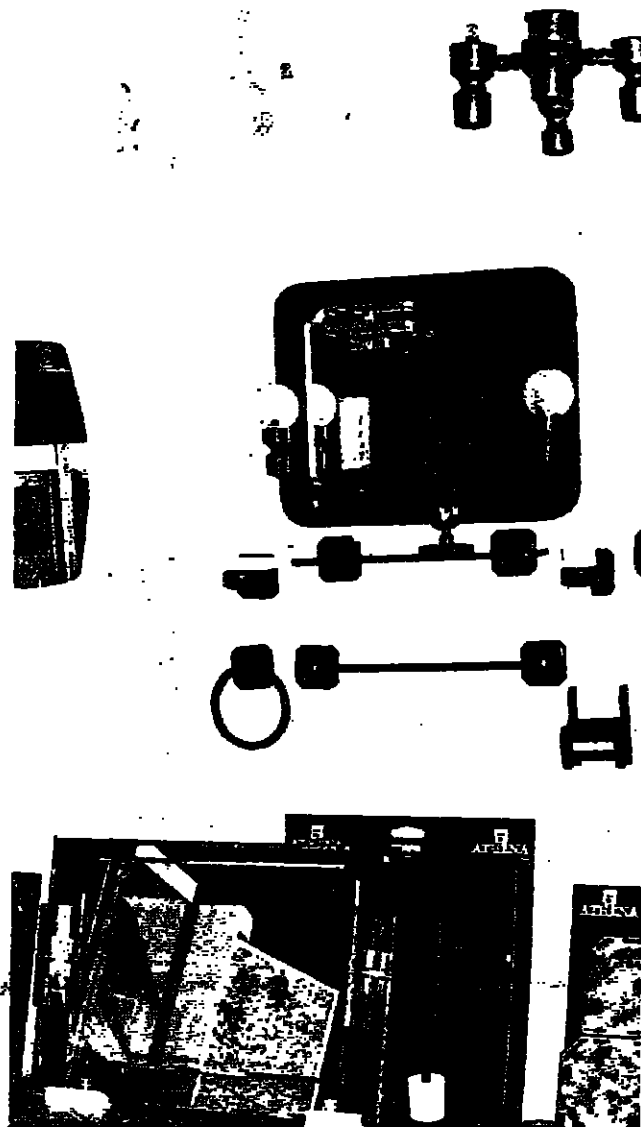
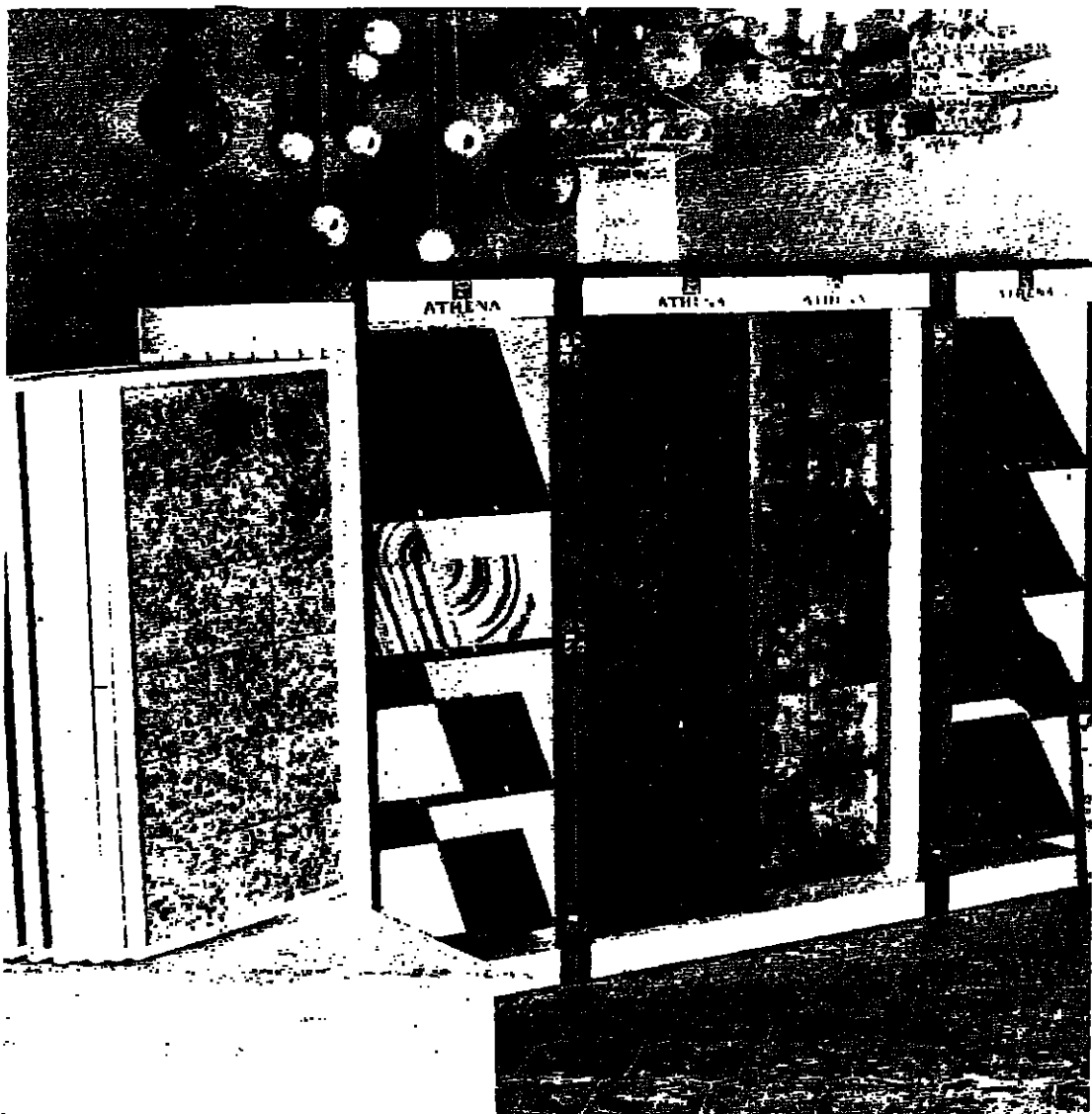
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## Thailand, Malaysia border pact difficult

ALA LUMPUR, Aug. 6, (R). — Months of diplomacy, joint efforts to suppress them. The activities of the Moslem rebels have long rankled the Thai authorities who say they often flee across the border into Malaysia's Kelantan state where they have refuge and support.

The Malaysian authorities want joint security operations only against the communist guerrillas. To them the suppression of Moslem rebels, who have blood and religious ties with Malay Moslems in Kelantan, is a Thai domestic affair and Malaysia cannot interfere.

The Malaysian stand on the Thai Moslem rebels underlines the emotional and politically explosive nature of the issue.

Kelantan state is politically dominated by the Pan Islamic Party (PAS), which is an uneasy coalition partner in Malaysia's national front government dominated by the United Malays National Organisation (UMNO) headed by Datuk Hussein.

PAS as well as the majority of Kelantan Malays do not disguise their sympathy for Moslems in southern Thailand.

Mr. Seni said after the Penang talks that he found Datuk Hussein and other Malaysian leaders hesitant over the provisions of the new pact which seek Malaysian help to solve the problem of Moslem irredentists.

Malaysia's counter-proposals will be sent to Bangkok within one month and will be followed by more negotiations but the prospects of an early agreement appear dim.

It was the Malaysian use of the right of "hot pursuit" which stirred up trouble over joint security

arrangements last April.

Anti-Malaysian demonstrations erupted in the Thai border town of Betong, in an area where communists are active, after Malaysian forces were reported to have shelled and bombed suspected communist units in Thailand.

The demonstrators demanded the withdrawal of more than 400 Malaysian para-military police stationed on the Thai side of the border under an agreement with the Thai armed forces and Thai officials agreed.

Malaysia pulled the police out early last month amid signs of a cooling in relations between the two countries and questions raised here about Thailand's capability to fill the vacuum.

## British minister sees USSR's Kiev for himself

LONDON, Aug. 6, (R). — British Defence Secretary Roy Mason yesterday had a close-up look at the Soviet Union's controversial new warship Kiev as a

## U.S. oil imports from OPEC are up

WASHINGTON, Aug. 6, (R). — The United States is becoming increasingly dependent on imported oil from member nations of the Organisation of Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC), the federal energy office said yesterday.

Imports will account for 41 per cent of U.S. oil consumption this year or about seven million barrels a day.

This is up from six million barrels a day or 37 per cent last year and 3.4 million barrels a day or 23 per cent in 1970, the office said in its midyear review.

OPEC countries account for about 82 per cent of U.S. imports now compared with 70 per cent prior to the oil embargo in effect from October, 1973, to March, 1974, following the Arab-Israeli war.

Imports from Arab OPEC members now account for 37 per cent of imports compared with 22 per cent in the pre-embargo period.

## EEC to grant \$204m to Egypt

CAIRO, Aug. 6, (AFP). — The European Economic Community (EEC) has agreed to grant Egypt aid and loans worth \$204 million over a five-year period, an authoritative Egyptian source said yesterday.

Observers noted in this connection that Minister of Commerce Zakareya Tewfik Abdul Fattah was to go to Brussels in October to discuss a detailed agreement with the EEC. This pact would cover customs preferences as well as economic, financial, and technical cooperation.

In addition, the Egyptian minister has decided to send to the Netherlands at the end of this month a representative of his common market department, Abdul Halim Ali. He will be on a fact-finding mission.

## Mother Nature angry with Vientiane regime

VIENTIANE, Aug. 6, (AFP). — The rice crop in Laos is seriously threatened by drought this year due to a late start to the monsoon season.

The desperately-needed monsoon rains did not begin until a week ago, one month later than normal. While there has been plenty of rain in the north, the rainfall in the centre and south of the country has been lighter and drought is still affecting Vientiane province, one of the country's major rice-producing areas.

The weather has played strange tricks on the People's Democratic Republic of Laos at the beginning of its first year of existence.

In April, as the people were preparing for the usual hot spell, the sky clouded over and rain

poured down sparking off feverish activity in the paddy fields, where collective farming is being applied more and more. A first planting was carried out here and there throughout the country, but the seedlings were scorched in June due to the lack of rain.

June and July were very dry, with an average of 60 per cent less rain than usual. This drought came at a time when the new regime decided to give priority to its political action programme to the "intensive development of agriculture".

In order to do this, the Laotian leaders in June started to mobilise the masses in the countryside and in certain provinces brought in the army in a bid to carry out the agricultural programme set by the party central committee.

Not a day went by without the national radio and the official press calling on the people to intensify agricultural production.

However, it looks as though this general mobilisation may not be successful enough and paddy production may be insufficient, bringing about a shortage of rice especially in Vientiane province.

Well aware of the serious problem of drought, the authorities

recently appointed a ministerial committee to propose ways to fight it.

The agriculture ministry decided to provide pumps to help irrigate Vientiane province and thus enable the paddy to be planted out, an operation that can be carried out only when the fields are flooded.

The April rains which gave rise to great hopes for a good harvest brought another scourge, swarms of locusts devoured the young rice shoots, adding to the damage caused by the drought.

Experts in Vientiane said the insects were confined to the north and north-eastern regions of Laos, but added that they were destroying large parts of the plantations.

Paradoxically, but still in line with the whims of Mother Nature, the authorities are already busy constructing and strengthening dykes along river Mekong which might burst its bank in a few months' time.

If serious flooding does occur, the new rice harvest will also be seriously threatened.

## OECD criticises U.S. policies on energy, trade

PARIS, Aug. 6 (R). — United States energy policy and alleged protectionist trade measures drew criticism yesterday in a review of the American economy by the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD).

The Paris-based OECD secretariat said in the annual review that the U.S. government had been very slow to implement the energy programme it introduced in January last year.

"There are strong doubts about the effectiveness of what has so far been implemented," it said.

While it continued to press internationally for further trade liberalisation, the United States had taken protectionist measures in a few specific cases, the report added.

Without specifying them the report said: "Even though their scope is small, an important question of principle is involved."

The report also said the other OECD member countries were disappointed by slow American progress towards ratifying an agreement setting up an OECD fund to help countries to avoid trade

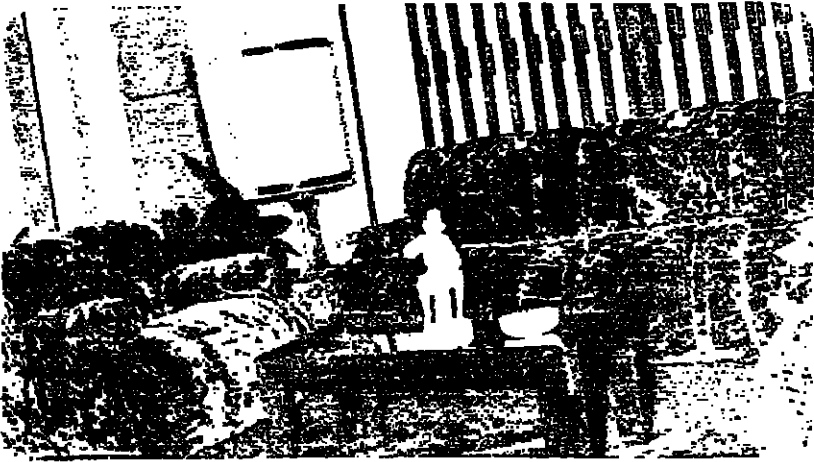
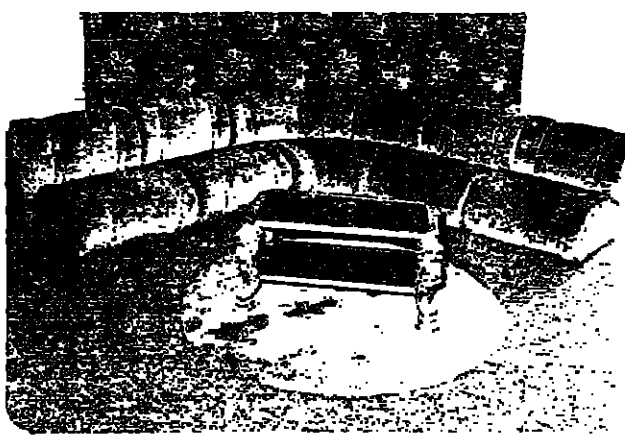
restrictions. Most of the 23 countries in the organisation have either already ratified the agreement or are about to do so.

It predicted that the U.S. economy would grow significantly over the next year, but said inflation also was likely to rise to about 6.3 per cent because of higher food and energy prices.

The U.S. recovery and its accompanying rapid rise in imports had provided a welcome boost to other countries' exports and helped to ease their balance of payments problems, the report said.

## HOUSE FOR RENT

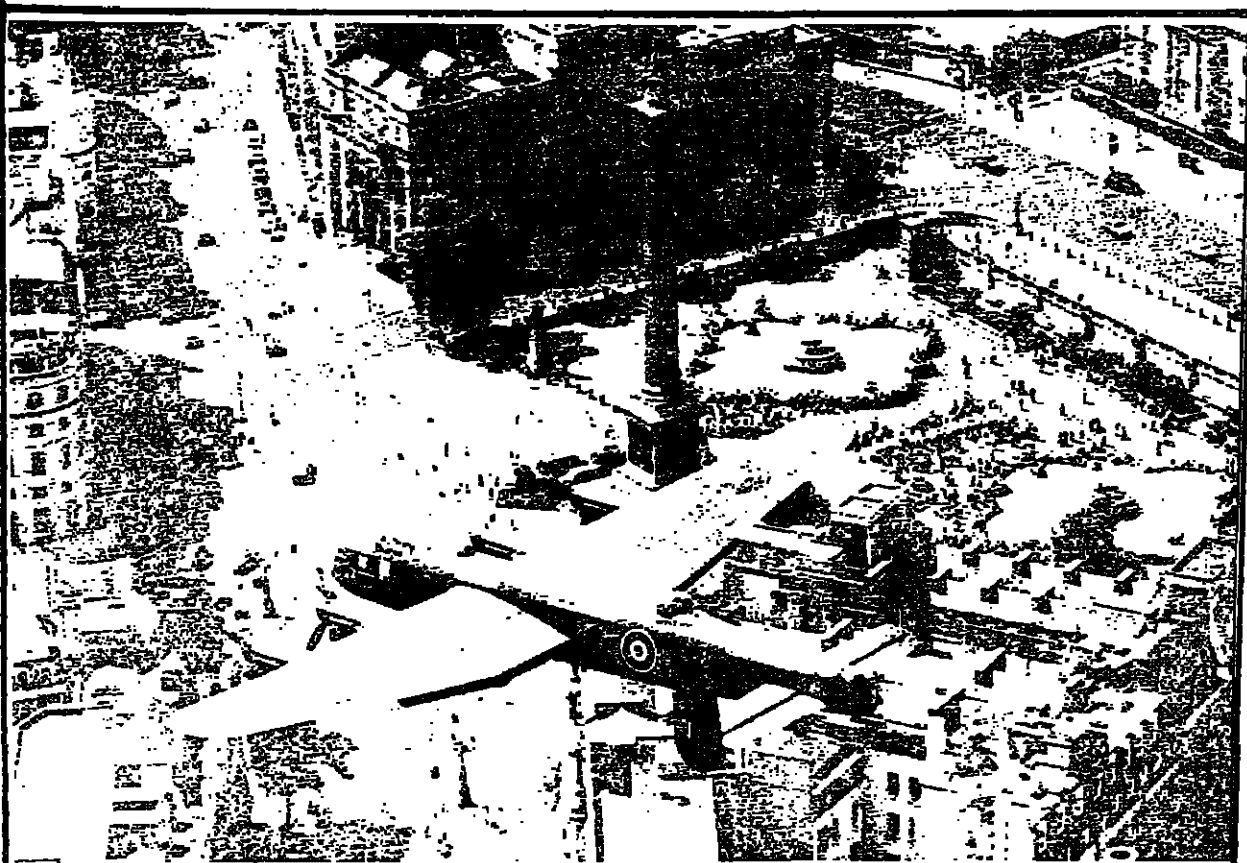
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**A MEETING OF TRADITIONS** — Symbols of Britain's distinguished history in the air and at sea fleetingly unite as this Lancaster bomber, part of the Battle of Britain Memorial Flight, makes a low pass over Nelson's Column in Trafalgar Square, London. The aircraft, the Royal Air Force's last flying Lancaster, was taking part in the 1976 Royal Tournament Parade, a prelude to an annual spectacular held in London in which all three arms of the British services take part. The historic Lancaster was Britain's main bomber during the Second World War and played a leading role in the Allied victory. Admiral Lord Nelson, perhaps Britain's most celebrated hero, led the British Fleet to victory at the Battle of Trafalgar in 1805.

## Ireland heads for the eighties - with expansion in peat production for energy

LONDON, (CSM) — Irish utility officials, finding their long-time programme of burning peat suddenly attractive economically, are planning an ambitious expansion project to take peat supplies from all of the country's boglands.

The reason for the unusual fuel's attractiveness is the leap in the price of oil, the main utility fuel in Ireland. When the first peat-fired generating station was commissioned in 1949, the best that could be said about the process was that it was giving jobs to some of the vast army of unemployed.

With labour costs 60 per cent of production expenses, peat could not compete with oil until 1973. In 1974, the least expensive peat unit of Ireland's Electricity Supply Board (ESB) had a fuel cost of 1.06 cents per kilowatt hour (kwh) while the cheapest ESB oil-

fired unit had a fuel cost of 1.44 cents kwh.

With the lure of economy now on peat's side, the ESB hopes to expand its peat capacity by more than 50 per cent over the next seven years. By 1982, the ESB plans to have eight small peat-fired stations burning about 4 million tons of peat and producing 588 megawatts—17 per cent of the projected demand.

The seven existing plants produce 38.5 megawatts, about 14 per cent of current demand.

Although the expansion plans are based on calculations that about one-seventh of Ireland has peat (decayed forest remains) — which is a geological oddity — nobody knows exactly how to restore the boglands afterwards.

Officials of Bord Na Mona, the semi-state company which produ-

ces the peat fuel, are developing combustion furnaces.

180,000 acres of bogland—enough to sustain present peat plants for 35 years. More than 6,000 workers are currently employed in gathering peat.

The peat-burning programme has attracted interest recently from all over the world, including the United States, where one Minnesota group is studying the possibility of peat gasification.

"We've had an army of people from the U.S.," said one top Bord Na Mona official. But Irish officials tell visitors that peat has not proved easy fuel to work with.

It has high moisture content, a Btu value five times less than oil and three times less than coal. It requires extensive drying and can only be produced from May to August, and must be covered with a plastic film in storage. Finally, it requires special utility

The ESB is expanding its firing capacity in spite of a depressed demand for power and a ballooning spare capacity margins that have virtually no plans for Ireland's first peat plant.

With zero growth in demand since 1973 (10 per cent a year expected) and with spare capacity pushing through the 30 per cent barrier (one official predicted could be 60 per cent by 1979), has taken courage to plan capacity expansion at all. But is committed to burning any produced.

"If we have to, we'll cut on our oil-fired plants first," one ESB engineer said. "With inflation going the way it is, we can afford to new plants in mothballs a couple of years if we have to."

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27. Limits

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32. Drapery fabric
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36. Uncle Tom's friend
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## ord will not name running mate until nominated

WASHINGTON, Aug. 6 (AFP). — President Gerald Ford will wait until he has the Republican nomination in Kansas City to announce his choice for a vice-presidential running mate, White House spokesman Ron Nessen said here yesterday.

Nessen said Mr. Ford would not follow the lead of his predecessor, Richard Nixon, who has already announced that he wanted Senator Richard Schweiker as his running mate.

Ford has, in any case, not made a choice yet, Mr. Nessen said, and he would not do so after receiving the responses to 5,000 questionnaires sent delegates and alternates to the Republican Party Convention, members of congress and other party figures in which they were asked to list their top five choices for the vice-presidency.

Answers to the questionnaires are expected to arrive at the White House no later than Aug. 11, which would give Mr. Ford four days in which to make a decision.

In a departure from tradition, Mr. Ford plans to leave for Kansas City on Aug. 15 or 16 in order to be in the city for the start of the convention. An incumbent president normally waits until his nomination is secured to go to the party convention.

By going earlier, Mr. Ford apparently hopes to short-circuit any last-minute efforts by Mr. Reagan to win the nomination.

Despite numerous personal and telephone contacts in recent days between Mr. Ford and several key delegations, the president is not certain to have the needed votes by convention time.

American press figures show he is no far from that vote figure—being 20 to 30 delegates short—but that Mr. Reagan is close behind. Last-minute maneuvers could change the situation, observers agree.

## Death toll from mystery disease in U.S. rises

PHILADELPHIA, Aug. 6 (AP). — The death toll from a mysterious disease which attacked participants in a Pennsylvania convention of ex-servicemen has now reached 25 and a leading health official today said the cause of the illness might never be found.

Dr. David Sencer, Director of the Center for Disease Control (CDC), said medical investigators were still baffled by the disease but they have determined it was not highly contagious.

He added that the epidemic had apparently reached its peak and was now on the waning.

Dr. Leonard Bachman, Pennsylvania's Health Secretary, said two more people—a 63-year-old man and a 45-year-old woman—died yesterday.

He said all the other victims, who had attended a state convention of the American Legion here last month.

In saying the cause of the disease might never be discovered, Dr. Sencer recalled that there had been diseases in the past which were never identified. Medical investigators were still baffled by the illness, he added.

Dr. Sencer also said that the disease was not contagious and that it was not a new disease.

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## Salyut cosmonauts are still in orbit, one month after launch

MOSCOW, Aug. 6 (R). — Soviet cosmonauts Boris Volynov and Vitaly Zolobov today logged one month in space with no indication that they were about to leave the orbiting Salyut-5 space station and return to earth.

It is also 15 years today since the Soviet Union's first 24-hour space flight, made by Herman Titov aboard Vostok-2.

The anniversary prompted reflections in the press here on advances of the Soviet space programme since then.

Although newspaper interest in the Salyut-5 flight has waned considerably, the TV news still daily features a filmed session with the cosmonauts, who demonstrate their latest experiments and chat with the interviewer.

Major-General Titov was called in to take part in the session screened last night.

When Volynov and Zolobov blasted off from earth a little more than a month ago, some Soviet sources predicted that a second manned Salyut-5 mission could be sent up to join them within four or five years.

If so, a second launch could come in the next few days, though, in accordance with the secrecy surrounding future space ventures, there has been no confirmation that such a move is planned.

In any event, many observers here believe the current mission is out to beat the space endurance record of 84 days, set last year by the Soyuz-18 crew in Salyut-4.

The English-language Soviet Weekly, published in London, described Salyut-5 as "a substantial improvement" on Salyut-4, which, the weekly said, was still in orbit.

Volynov and Zolobov appear to have now virtually completed biological experiments, involving the rearing of fish, insects, plants, in space.

Latest reports say they are now concentrating on photographing the sun and the earth.

They have also carried out simple experiments with molten metal, and grown crystals in weightlessness.

## LONDON MARKET REPORT

The market closed steady to a shade firmer in quiet trading at the end of the account Friday, dealers said. Shares recovered early falls in scattered buying.

Government stocks were little changed. Leading equities were mostly steady although shell eased 5p while some others were mostly steady, with falls of up to 50p in mining shares and gold producers due to concern about the situation in Africa.

African black townships, dealers said. Australians were mixed.

gained 5p after 10p at the outset after news of its purchase of 88 mln dollars rights' issue. Woodside Burmah gained 2p on the news while Burmah Oil eased a penny.

who lost 5p while falls of a penny or two were recorded by Marks, GKN and Unilever. Courtauld, Reed, Emi, Plessey and others all edged slightly higher.



FRONTLINE — This is Damascus Street which cuts through the Lebanese capital. It is the frontline between rightist and leftist sectors of the divided city. Arab peace-keeping forces are to set up a buffer zone on both sides of the street as part of the current ceasefire effort (A.P. wire-photo).

## China copes with after-effects of quake--its own way

PEKING, Aug. 6. (Agencies). — Tientsin, China's third largest city, is without electricity and faces a water shortage following last week's massive earthquake, Chinese sources said today.

They reported that shops were closed and authorities were distributing food among the four million population. There was also insufficient drinking water, they added.

Tientsin, a key industrial centre, was only 40 miles from the epicentre of the earthquake that hammered northeast China on July 28.

Other reports reaching here suggest the city and nearby port of Hsinking may have suffered further heavy damage in the after-tremors that followed.

In Peking most of the population were allowed back into their homes today. Many buildings in older quarters of the city will need repairs before they will be habitable.

The 1,200-year-old great wall of China, which lies outside the capital, was undamaged. Visitors to the wall said it was unscathed.

Immediately following the earthquake, fruit and vegetable stalls sprang up all over Peking. Now stalls selling umbrellas, linen, and household items have been set up on pavements and in squares.

They carry slogans calling on the people to "intensify the struggle" against former Deputy Premier Teng Hsiao-ping and to "Triumph over nature" and natural disasters.

Truck convoys bearing identical slogans and carrying rice and other relief commodities were today again seen heading eastward across Peking toward the disaster zone.

The press meanwhile has been stepping up its anti-Teng Campaign. (Teng Hsiao-ping was dismissed four months ago for his "right-revisionist line").

"We can do a good job in the anti-quake work," says the press, "only if we carry out successfully the criticism of Teng Hsiao-ping and the anti-right deviationist struggle".

The Johannesburg newspaper, The Star, quoted the Police Commissioner, General Gert Prinsloo, as saying police forces throughout South Africa had been put on standby alert. Similar action was taken at the height of the June riots which claimed 176 lives.

General Prinsloo could not be reached for confirmation.

The Star also quoted the police commissioner as rejecting demands for the release of black students detained without trial since the riots in June.

They were being held on serious charges, he said, and "we cannot allow our system of justice to fall to pieces to meet the demands of a handful of students."

"The disturbances show no sign of ending and it seems the responsible people of Soweto cannot, or will not, do anything about it," he said.

Black township leaders in the Pretoria area today asked for permission to hold a public meeting — officially banned until the end of this month — to urge an end to violence.

They also called for more talks with Justice Minister James Kruger to seek solutions to black grievances.

One focal point of violence was a recreation centre called "Uncle Tom's Hall" in Orlando. Black reporters said a huge crowd of students surrounded and stoned the building. It was not known why.

All whites, including reporters, were barred from the township as they had been on Wednesday. Schools were open but empty. The health clinics, were closed.

Police refused to confirm any of the numerous eye-witness reports, saying they were drawing up an official casualty toll.

In Pretoria, police headquarters confirmed that a police weapon had been stolen yesterday but local police denied rumours that a machine-gun and six loaded rifles had been stolen.

The situation in other black townships was relatively calm but three schools were set on fire during the night at a township near Middelburg, east of Johannesburg.

## Former S. Yemeni premier escapes assassination

CAIRO, Aug. 6. (R). — A former South Yemeni Premier, Mr. Mohammed Ali Haitham, was slightly wounded here today in an assassination attempt, the second against him in a year, the official Egyptian Middle East News Agency said.

The driver of a car carrying Mr. Haitham, two other South Yemenis and a bodyguard, was killed when two gunmen fired at them from another car, the agency reported.

Mr. Haitham, who has lived in exile in Egypt for several years, was slightly injured in the forehead and arm.

The identity of the driver was not immediately known. The incident occurred in a residential district of west Cairo at 1300 GMT, the agency added.

The agency quoted Sheikh Saleh Ahmed Seif, one of the two other South Yemenis in the car, as saying Mr. Haitham's injuries were superficial.

In October last year Mr. Haitham, who leads the South Yemeni United Front opposed to the Marxist government in Aden, was shot and wounded and two South Yemeni gunmen were later arrested.

## Taiwan talks technology with Saudi Arabia

TAIPEI, Aug. 6. (R). — Taiwan is to provide Saudi Arabia with technology and technicians to aid its industrial and infrastructure projects, the Central news agency reported on Wednesday.

At a reception given here in honour of a visiting Saudi Arabian business team, the Taiwanese deputy economic minister Mr. Chang said Taiwan would send a team of technicians to Saudi Arabia to help set up an electric power supply system in central Saudi Arabia, the agency said.

Mr. Chang was quoted as saying there were many other joint projects to be carried out by the governments of the two countries, but no details were given.

The Saudi Arabian business team is led by Mr. Salehm Al Dkheel, owner of a construction company.

## D'Estaing is for black majority rule in Rhodesia

LIBREVILLE, Gabon, Aug. 6. (R). — President Valery Giscard d'Estaing of France has said here, black majority rule in Rhodesia is a necessary step towards the development of Africa.

At a banquet in his honour last night, Mr. Giscard d'Estaing, on a state visit to Gabon, said Africa will be able to devote itself entirely to its immense task of development when it has become its own master.

He said steps in this process were "the necessary application of majority rule in Rhodesia... and the condemnation of the policy of Apartheid which wounds both black and white men in their common dignity."

Other steps were accession of Namibia (South West Africa) to independence along a timetable fixed by the United Nations and

## Unemployment will be Djibouti's main problem

PARIS, Aug. 6. (R). — The principal problem facing a newly-independent Djibouti will be high unemployment, the French territory's Prime Minister, M. Abdallah Kamil said in an interview published today.

With independence set for the first half of next year, the prime minister told the daily Le Figaro he had asked French government leaders for help in creating jobs in the building industry, and positions for young specialists.

Asked whether he believed violent conflict between the Red Sea territory's two main ethnic groups, the Afars and Issas, was inevitable, M. Kamil said the various groups only fought because there was not enough work.

"Large numbers of unemployed young people make up a politically-available mass, and one that is uncontrollable," the prime minister said.

"Leaders must show themselves politically worthy of their responsibilities, for it is on their ability to find solutions to this problem, and in particular to obtain credits, that civil peace in the country will depend," he added.

## Kenya, Uganda to normalise ties

[Continued from page 1] the indiscriminate mass murder of Kenyans in Uganda and charged that Ugandan troops had taken away Kenyan property in Uganda.

The communique said Kenya and Uganda agreed that there would be a free flow of traffic between the two countries, that debts should be paid and that a joint committee would be set up to examine the debt question. Kenya says it is owed 400 million shillings (27 million sterling) by Uganda.

The document, directly or by implication, met all seven conditions set by Kenya for a resumption of normal and peaceful relations between the two states.

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## Sunspot reported

RAVENNA, ITALY, Aug. 6. (AFP). — A sunspot of more than 50,000 km (about 32,000 miles) in diameter was recorded yesterday by the Benda-ndi observatory here, the observatory reported today.

The observatory said the sunspot would move on Sunday to the sun's central meridian before disappearing to the west side of the sun on Aug. 15.

The sunspot, said the communique, would be likely to cause electrical, magnetic, and cosmic, disturbances.

## Egypt bans communist food

CAIRO, Aug. 6. (AFP). — Egypt was reported yesterday to have banned food imports from "communist countries" with the single exception of cheese, for which a special permit is required.

The Cairo newspaper Al Gomhouriya reported the ban citing the commerce ministry. The report gave no explanation.

**LEATHER**

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## Chase Bank Cocktail Party



The Manager-Operations of the Chase Manhattan Bank, N.A., Jordan and Mrs. Hans Jacobson gave a Cocktail Party at their residence on August 4, 1976 to introduce Mr. James J. Liu, Second Vice President, and Mr. Nizar Omary, Assistant Treasurer both of Chase Head Office, New York to the business community of Amman and Mr. Jean-Francois Seznec, Second Vice President, the new Chase Representative for Jordan, Lebanon, Syria and Iraq, who was unable to attend.

Both Mr. Liu and Mr. Omary are presently on an extended business trip through the Middle East and will be in Jordan until August 10, 1976.

Among the many guests who attended the party were high-ranking government officials, leading businessmen and general managers of the Central Bank and Commercial banks.

Mr. James J. Liu is in charge of Institutional and Corporate relations for the Levant Region and Mr. Nizar Omary was previously Representative in Beirut. Both Chase officers will have meetings with Governmental Authorities, the leading Government-owned corporations, as well as with the Jordanian Banks in order to discuss the economic situation in Jordan.

The Chase Manhattan Bank, N.A. has always taken a keen interest in the development of Jordan, which was emphasized by the recent visit of Mr. David Rockefeller, Chairman of the Board. With the opening of its first branch in Jordan, April 12, 1976, the bank believes it will be in a better position to service the financial needs of the country, in order to achieve the goals of the new 5-year Development Plan, (1976-1980).